

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re A	Application of:)			
		:	Examiner: M. Nguyen		
MINORU KUSAKABE et al.)			
		:	Group Art Unit: 2626		
Application No.: 09/671,623)	RECEIVED		
		:	NEULIVE		
Filed:	September 28, 2000)	APR 0 7 2004		
		:			
For:	IMAGE PROCESSING)	Technology Center 2600		
	APPARATUS AND METHOD,	:	100111101297		
	AND STORAGE MEDIUM)	April 5, 2004		

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to JP 11-041446, which is listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and of which a copy is enclosed.

This document was cited during prosecution of a Japanese patent application corresponding to the above U.S. application. A copy of a Japanese Office Action, which is dated January 30, 2004, is enclosed.

U.S. Published Application No. 2001/0043341 claims priority from the same basic Japanese application as that of JP 11-041446. Accordingly, a copy of this published application is enclosed and it is also listed on Form PTO-1449.

Also cited in the Japanese Office Action was JP 5-301380, which was cited in the above-identified application in an Information Disclosure Statement filed January 10, 2003. Accordingly, JP 5-301380 is not being cited herein.

An English-language abstract for JP 11-041446 is enclosed. A concise explanation of relevance for this document is believed to be provided by the English-language abstract.

The Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, CA office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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FORM PTO 1449 (modifi	fied)	ATTY DOCKET NO.		APPLICATION NO.							
U.S. [DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE	00862.022011.			09/671,623						
11	FERENCES CITED BY APPLICAN	APPLICANT Minoru Kusakabe et al.									
(Us	se several sheets if necessary) APR	FILING DATE GROUP				2626					
		September 28, 2000 2626									
*CYAMINED	DOCUMENT	U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS				FILING DATE					
*EXAMINER INITIAL	MINER DOCUMENT		NAME		CLASS	SUBCLASS	IF APPROPRIATE				
	2001/0043341 11/01		Shibahara et al. 358		358	1.9					
						RECE	VED				
						APR 0 7	2004				
					Te	chnology C	enter 260 0				
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS											
	DOCUMENT DATE				CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/				
	NUMBER			<u> </u>			OR ABSTRACT				
	11-041446 2/99		Japan			**	Abstract				
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		-		,							
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)											
Office Action, dated January 30, 2004, in JP11-279382											
EVAMINED DATE CONSIDERED											

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.